United Nations A/64/69

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 March 2009
English
Original: English/Spanish

Sixty-fourth session
Item 38 of the preliminary list*
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is mandated by General Assembly resolution 63/104 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* A/64/50.

09-27750 (E) 170409 170409

I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI), offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme is included in the handbook entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions,[1] the Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.[2] The present report, which covers the period from 20 March 2008 to 24 March 2009, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of Assembly resolution 63/104.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 59 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the relevant General Assembly resolutions:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State has also offered scholarships:

Holy See.

---

[1] The most recent resolution adopted by the General Assembly on this question is resolution 63/104.

[2] The most recent report is A/63/67.

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Algeria

7. In a note verbale dated 18 February 2009, the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following, with regard to scholarships for the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories:

> The Government of Algeria provides higher education scholarships every year. For the academic year 2008/09, it awarded 197 scholarships for undergraduate studies and 5 for postgraduate studies.
>
> The scholarships for undergraduate studies were granted in the following subjects: political science (27); information and communications technology (12); Islamic studies (12); biology and life science (18); law (37); mathematics/computing (3); languages (38); archaeology (5); Arabic literature (16); engineering sciences (12); veterinary science (3); economics (2); architecture (1); statistics (1); international trade (1); medicine (1); business studies (3); management (1); geosciences (1).

Argentina

8. In a note verbale dated 27 February 2009, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations requested that the following paragraphs be included in the present report:

> The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 2065 (XX) and in subsequent resolutions, and the Special Committee on Decolonization, have described the question of the Malvinas Islands as a special and particular colonial situation involving a sovereignty dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, have established that the way to put an end to that situation is the peaceful and negotiated solution of the sovereignty dispute, and have requested both Governments to continue without delay the bilateral negotiations recommended by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.
>
> Despite the illegal British occupation, the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands are part of the Argentine national territory, and their inhabitants therefore have equality of access with the rest of the Argentine population to the Argentine public education system. This includes free education at the primary, secondary and tertiary/university levels, as well as to the benefits of the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Argentina.

Austria

9. In a note verbale dated 3 March 2009, the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that although Austria does not offer scholarships specifically for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, students from non-self-governing territories have the possibility to apply for the following scholarships:

- Ernst Mach Grant (worldwide)
- Ernst Mach Grant for students from non-European countries for studying in a full-time programme at an Austrian university of applied sciences
- Franz Werfel Grant for young university teachers of German language and Austrian literature
- Mondi Austria Student Scholarship
- One World Scholarship Programme
- Richard Plaschka Scholarship
- Scholarship Council of the Scholarship Foundation of the Republic of Austria

For applicable restrictions and information on the scholarships, the website of the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research can be consulted at http://www.grants.at.

Cuba

10. In a note verbale dated 6 March 2009, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General of the scholarships offered by the Government of Cuba to students of the Non-Self-Governing Territories for the period 2009/10. The breakdown is as follows:

1.	Anguilla	Law
2.	Bermuda	Sociocultural studies
3.	British Virgin Islands	Electrical engineering
4.	Cayman Islands	Electrical engineering
5.	Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	Automatic engineering
6.	Gibraltar	Sociology
7.	Guam	Psychology
8.	Montserrat	Mechanical engineering
9.	New Caledonia	Chemical engineering
10.	Pitcairn	Agricultural engineering
11.	Saint Helena	Electronic engineering
12.	Tokelau	Telecommunications
13.	Turks and Caicos Islands	Civil engineering
14.	United States Virgin Islands	Hydraulic engineering
15.	Western Sahara	Metallurgical engineering

Mexico

11. In a note verbale dated 2 March 2009, the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that:

> Each year, the Government of Mexico offers a scholarship for the residents of the territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Gibraltar, Guam, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Tokelau and the Turks and Caicos Islands.
>
> Mexico offers a total of six scholarships to Western Sahara (Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic), three of which are granted as part of the Non-Self-Governing Territories Programme, while the other three are granted as part of the Asia, Pacific, Africa and Middle East Programme.
>
> Currently, there is a Saharan studying in Mexico who was given a scholarship for the period from August 2008 to July 2009, with the possibility of extension until July 2010, to study for a master's degree in Education at the Autonomous University of Chapingo.

New Zealand

12. In a note verbale dated 4 March 2009, the Office of the Administrator of Tokelau Ulufakatonu o Tokelau informed the Secretariat that:

> New Zealand provides Tokelau with economic assistance in the form of a three-year Economic Support Arrangement. The current arrangement runs from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2010. The Economic Support Arrangement is intended to place greater responsibility for budgeting in the hands of Tokelau. Funding for discrete activities such as scholarships has been rolled into this overall amount.
>
> In the period under review by the Secretary-General, New Zealand wishes to advise that 45 students have been granted scholarships funded from the Economic Support Arrangement. These include both post-graduate, undergraduate, diploma and foundation courses and cover education, the sciences, law and the arts.
>
> Tokelau has recently taken the decision to begin awarding scholarships for study in Pacific countries such as Samoa and Fiji rather than New Zealand.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

13. In a letter dated 2 March 2009, the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations advised the Secretariat that:

> Education in the United Kingdom Overseas Territories is a domestic issue and therefore, under their Constitutions, is the responsibility of the locally elected Overseas Territory Government. It is a matter of domestic policy for each Overseas Territory Government to determine what proportion of their national budgets is spent on study and training.
>
> Citizens of the Overseas Territories, who are also British citizens, have access to the United Kingdom's further and higher educational institutions.

Overseas Territories students are charged the home fee rate for further education and higher education courses at colleges and universities in the United Kingdom. This means that Overseas Territories students are treated equally as students from the United Kingdom.

In addition, the United Kingdom offered three Chevening scholarships (covering education, water waste management and forensic science) to Overseas Territories students in the period 2008/09 as follows:

Territory	Number of students
Anguilla	1
Cayman Islands	1
Montserrat	1

III. Applications made through the United Nations

14. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

15. From 20 March 2008 to 24 March 2009, the Secretariat received no requests from students for information on the availability of scholarships.

IV. Conclusion

16. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.